

FALL  
1958  
50 cents

# ACCENT

*on living*

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**AND MORE**

IDEAS • NEWS • FACTS • INFORMATION • HUMOR



Ray  
Cheever

# This Is Your Magazine

**W**e are proud to present to you, **ACCENT**, a national magazine edited by and for physically handicapped people. Formerly *Polio Living*, this new publication is the result of over two years of publishing experience, hundreds of letters to and from readers and the recent reader's survey.

Our executive advisory committee has gained one of the world's leading men in research and rehabilitation, Dr. L. W. Freeman, M.D., Ph.D. This will increase the value of this publication to you as

an authoritative source of information.

Floy Schoenfelder brings us, "How to Overcome Self-Consciousness of Your Handicap." You will remember her "10 Rules For Living" (Fall 1956 issue) which has since been reprinted in many professional magazines, rehabilitation center newspapers and even in a foreign publication.

You will see another in the series of home operated businesses, "How I Started My Own Mimeograph Business" on page 11.

We invite you to write to us to comment on any article or any problem that you think deserves mention in these pages. This is your magazine.

## ACCENT ON LIVING CHARTER

ACCENT On Living is a national magazine dedicated to serving all handicapped people, their families and their friends, regardless of race, religion or creed. ACCENT is an authoritative clearing house for problems confronting handicapped people. ACCENT is edited and published with the firm belief that each person gains invaluable experience and knowledge as the result of a physical handicap. ACCENT believes in the complete dignity and respect of all persons. Furthermore, all profit from ACCENT Magazine will be used for furthering rehabilitation facilities and bringing facts, ideas and the benefits of rehabilitation to the readers of this magazine.

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Vol. 3, No. 2



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## **World's Leading Research Scientist in Spinal Cord Injuries Appointed to ACCENT Executive Committee**

Dr. L. W. Freeman, M.D., Ph.D.,  
has been named to this committee  
by Raymond C. Cheever, President  
and Publisher of ACCENT On  
Living. Dr. Freeman is Professor  
of Surgery and Director of the  
Surgical Experimental Laborator-  
ies at the University of Indiana  
Medical Center where he is en-  
gaged in research of the regenera-  
tion of the central nervous system.

Included in this research he has  
severed the spinal cord of rats,  
cats and dogs and has been success-  
ful in having the nerves regener-

(Continued on page 4)



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## PVA Officers



Newly elected officers of the Paralyzed Veterans of America, l to r: Richard F. Carlson, Mid-South PVA, vice-president; Harry Schweikert, Eastern PVA, president; Dennis Lamb, New England PVA, treasurer; Leslie Burghoff, New England PVA, secretary. Election was held at the annual convention held July 21-23 at the Congress Hotel in Chicago.

### DR. FREEMAN—Continued

ate so the animals could walk again. In future issues, ACCENT will release much more information of Dr. Freeman's successful experiments.

During 1945 through 1947 he organized and supervised the building of the army and veteran centers for rehabilitation of veteran paraplegics. He has made many little known but highly important contributions to rehabilitation. Just one is the use of eight inch wheels on wheelchairs instead of the smaller casters that can make it difficult to roll over small rugs in the house.

Dr. Freeman received both his M.D. and Ph.D. at the University of Chicago. He and his wife Margaret have six children.

# Living Lines...

"We appreciate the promptness with which the recent mailing for us was handled and we might add that so far the response has been nothing short of terrific."

J. J. Monaghan Company, Inc.  
Denver, Colorado

"I subscribe to this magazine and I enjoy it very much. I am a post-polio confined to a wheelchair and very interested in new and helpful equipment."

Mrs. Louis J. Dunn  
Port Huron, Michigan

"I am enclosing two dollars and the subscription blank for the magazine which I think is the best magazine out for handicapped people. I'm a polio victim and enjoy reading the magazine from cover to cover and many times I have read it thru two or three times."

Albert D. Beffa  
Newman, California

"Dicho catalogo va a ser de suma utilidad para la confeccion de nuestro programa de compras."

Dr. César Sallarés Dillon  
Director Interino  
Comision Nacional De  
Rehabilitacion  
Republica Argentina

("This magazine is going to be of great help in our program of purchasing.")

"We just discovered a wonderful gadget that enables me to type for hours without having someone run to insert a new piece of paper. Maybe it's old stuff to you, but I can't recall seeing it mentioned in P.L. It's an attachment made by IBM for their electric typewriter that

feeds a continuous strip of standard width paper into the machine. They also have a plate to place over the keys so that dragging fingers won't activate unwanted keys."

Mrs. James L. Ashcraft  
Newton, Iowa

"L'Ambassade des Etats-Unis a Paris nous ayant communiqué votre adresse, nous serions tres herreux de recevoir votre revue, et, si vous le désirez, vous assurer le service de la notre."

L. Andebert  
La Direction  
Polio-Revue  
Paris, France

("The U. S. Embassy in Paris has given us your address, and we would be very happy to receive your revue, and, if you wish, we'll send you ours.")

"Have enjoyed your magazine very much and get ideas for easier living with each issue. I have been a paraplegic for 9 years . . . . I think sometimes that the handicapped person solves his prob-



"Getting plenty of sleep, are you?"

lems with a lot less to do about it than the man (or woman) that claims to be 'normal'."

Ernestine Borning  
Interlaken, New York

"I read your summer issue, particularly the article on how to get a job. It has some very good suggestions with which I heartily agree. However, it appears one idea was overlooked. Surely a contact with your rehabilitation agency would bring about a counselor interview at your residence. This would well include suggestions of suitable vocational objectives and methods of accomplishing them. One of these methods might be the offer to pay a prospective employer to try out a handicapped person. We call this, "On the job" training. This idea may be used when an employer suggests that he doubts the job can be done by the handicapped person. We do not feel it should be part of all applications, but it can be used when other methods fail."

Harold G. Zimmer  
Case Supervisor  
Rehabilitation Division  
Green Bay, Wisconsin

"It has become a much looked for magazine in my home! I also think the "Accent" title is a very good idea."

Joyce Kellogg  
Brookfield, Illinois

"Your choice of "Accent on Living" pleases me very much."

Ivaelois Kaehms  
Chicago, Illinois

"Just recently I read a copy of your magazine. Have been looking for something like this for a long time and I'm happy that I was told about Accent on Living."

Violet Duracka  
Chicago, Illinois

"I wrote to Kent Granger and received a letter from him today. I am very interested in his control. I want to thank you for helping me find the way to better myself."

Charlotte Frey  
Pecatonica, Illinois

"As part of the requirement for a course I am taking at the University of Nebraska, I must write a term paper. The subject of this paper is "A Study of Physical Medicine and Vocational Rehabilitation Possibilities for Severely Disabled". I would like your permission to add to the appendix of this term paper a photostatic reprint of an article titled "Grasping Device" by Robert Tedrow in the Spring 1957 issue and also of one page "Minds Make Money", Fall 1957 issue and "A Good Job Confidence and Independence", by Gene Love, Spring 1958."

Thomas O. True  
Lincoln, Nebraska

"EXCELLANTE! Thanks for another very good issue of our little magazine. Most of us are a little tired of the word "polio" so I think the new title will be a great improvement, and also give the magazine a wider appeal. The column by Rev. Arthur Gordon fills a definite need, and Richard Sprague is delightful. As usual, your editorial was "just right". The news items and articles seem well chosen and informative. I thought 'How To Get A Job' was especially well written. But . . . that poem, 'The Hot-Pack Blues' left me cold to say the absolute least! One more like that and I'll cancel my subscription. . . !"

Fred Snyder  
Los Angeles, California

"Enclosed find our order for "Polio Living" magazine. We have found issues of Polio Living (now called ACCENT) to provide good reading for both our staff and patients—particularly articles on employment of the handicapped."

Patricia Plaisted, OTR Supervisor  
The Hartford Rehabilitation Center  
Hartford, Connecticut

# How To Overcome Self Consciousness Of Your Handicap

by Floy Schoenfelder

**B**eing handicapped limits our abilities and therefore represents a loss of status. This is a terrific blow to the ego. We are ashamed and embarrassed when others notice that we must make certain obvious concessions to our disabilities. To control this feeling requires an understanding of its cause and its effect on other people.

Rebellion against such loss of status is the opposite of self-pity. Self-consciousness is that feeling that makes you wish you could become invisible at times. Self-pity, on the other hand, tries to keep you in the spotlight after the act is over.

There is no denying that each of us has to experience a war between these two emotions during our period of adjustment. If we are to retain our balanced personality and emotional health, this war must end in a truce. When this happens, self-pity and self-consciousness will not be eliminated because they are a part of any individual, but they will have been disarmed, so to speak.



Much has been written about self-pity, destroyer of character. Self-consciousness can be equally devastating if you let yourself become overconcerned about your handicap. Accept yourself if you would have others accept you. It is not only to your advantage, but it is your duty to avoid letting your handicap discredit you as a person. People will be uncomfortable in your presence if you don't learn to make them forget that you are "different".

Exactly how does one keep self-consciousness at a minimum? Insulate yourself with a reconstructed attitude. Pretend, if you must, that your handicap DOES NOT embarrass you. Concentrate on making others feel at ease, and you will find that you no longer need to pretend.

Consider the fact that each person on this earth is just a little different from all others. Everyone has one or more handicaps, ranging from those which are severely disabling to others perceptible only in our own minds. If your handicap shows, you can help everyone who knows you by not letting it sap your self-esteem. Don't let your disability cripple your personality, no matter how it may have outraged you

*(Continued on page 20)*

**"Concentrate on making  
others feel at ease."**

# Same Career . . .

## New Point of View

by Rosemary Masek

The fall of 1954 was a turning point in my career, for after only five weeks as a high school teacher, I walked into the hospital with polio. After a month's stay in an iron lung and eight months' daily therapy, I was ready to leave—in a wheelchair and with weak arms my only asset. Like many others before me, I only became emotional when I thought about my future; it seemed rather grim at best. But I believe that two comments made by outsiders really sparked me to end the relative pleasantness of lying at home in bed.

One was made by a fellow polio who evidently thought that because I could make potholders, I was normal. "You don't need to be rehabilitated," said she. This only made me more certain that I really needed to be physically independent.

But as neither my parents nor my therapists were able to teach me to dress or to get from my chair to bed or car, I turned to our local vocational rehabilitation office for help. After several talks with the local counsellor, I went to Woodrow Wilson Rehabilitation Center for six months of therapy and business school training, the latter the answer to the job problem. But another comment made at this time irked me so that I became determined to return to the field for which I was already prepared through college and graduate school education. "You better take some shorthand and typing; you know you can't be a college teacher."

WWRC really proved to me that it was best to go on with what I had; teachers and counsellors there convinced me that it was not too







soon to apply for a job—as a teacher. I was interviewed by the dean of our local two-year college. I agreed with him that a part-time job was a good start on the return trip to full time work. That fall I began with two remedial English classes and also helped the librarian whom I have known for several years. This job gave me much needed confidence so that by the end of the year, I felt that I had reached a second and more profitable turning point.

This last fall I taught full time, having three English classes and two history. Since I am unable to write on the blackboard, the Department of Education loaned the college an overhead transparency projector for my use. Now I have added other audio-visual aids to my repertoire—the opaque projector, filmstrips, records and sound films. My students always come to my rescue in moving the machines though I find my wheelchair can be very useful in moving tables and chairs, too.

At the college level, of course, there are no discipline problems such as those facing the elementary or secondary teacher. My students

are most cooperative, and sometimes I feel I have an advantage in creating an informal atmosphere. At least I don't hover over my students while they take exams! And I am certain that wheelchair living creates patience by the bushel.

My main problem from the very beginning was transportation to and from school. My father usually takes me now; next year I can enlist my younger brother who will be a college freshman. Getting in and out requires a slideboard and much effort, but I am planning for the day when I can drive myself to work.

School work keeps me well-occupied. I do take part in regular faculty meetings and belong to local, state, and national education associations as well as the National Council of Teachers of English. This summer I attended Denver University for additional work on my Master's Degree in Library Science, the field I originally planned to enter. This fall I am back at my job—teaching freshman English and Reading Improvement.

Teaching is a very satisfying work—even from a wheelchair.

## The Bible Says

By  
Rev.  
Arthur  
Gordon



Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven . . . ." (Matthew 6:19, 20)

The treasures of earth are soon-passing, transient, short-lived. Moths eat our clothes. Termites eat our houses. Locusts eat our crops. Rust eats our cars. Cancer eats our bodies. Remorse eats at our memories. And if something is found that withstands these devouring enemies, then comes a thief who breaks in and steals.

Man with his bug repellents, paints, insecticides, antibiotics, tranquilizers, and burglar alarms has done a fairly good job of combating these invaders. But even with all our scientific "know-how," this life with its treasures, in the words of James, is only "a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away."

The Scriptural admonition, therefore, is to "lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven," which are not subject to decay nor thievery.

Some of these heavenly treasures

as recorded in the Bible are: truth, righteousness, peace, faith, salvation, the Word of God itself, and prayer. These, along with all the other treasures of the Bible, are ours to receive as they are gifts from God through His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.



Fred L. Poehlmann, Buffalo, New York, built this elevator in his home for just \$250.

It all started with a novel idea he got one day while at work selling greeting cards. Why wouldn't the elevating section of a fork-lift truck work? In the yellow pages he found listings for industrial lift companies and talked to one that happened to have a truck that had been in an accident without damage to the lift. He bought this for \$75 and a one-half ton electric hoist for \$175. A friend of his installed it.

Fred comments, "I only wish I had this elevator 20 or 30 years ago, it sure would have saved many 'heaves' going up stairs backwards. Now I find it an extreme pleasure to go out doors, knowing that when I return, I just slide from the car seat over a board to my wheelchair and go up the elevator without any effort. I only wish all handicapped people could have one like it."

(Picture and story courtesy Paraplegia News)

# How I Started My Own Mimeograph Business

by Patricia Ann Fettis

I joined "the wheelchair gang" in August 1954. Six months in the hospital and about a year and a half later I moved into our new home built by my father and husband. I wanted something to help with the finances and my mother suggested mimeographing as I had several years of office experience.

Before we decided definitely, we talked it over with the Official Board of our church and they agreed to let me mimeograph the weekly bulletins. I called several business firms to get an estimate price on a used mimeograph and typewriter good for stencil cutting with elite type. Portables are not heavy enough and do not cut a clear stencil. I purchased a mimeograph with an electric motor for \$65 and a typewriter for \$35. Next

I purchased about \$10 of supplies.

Let me add here, it is best to buy the best supplies as they will produce a better job. Cheap stencils are not uniform in thickness and make some letters heavier than others and often break during long runs. Cheap ink leaves oil stains around letters after sitting a while. I use 20# weight moistrite mimeo bond as it allows you to run on both sides.

I am told there is a need for mimeograph work, but I sure had a time getting my business known. First, tell your friends and run off some postcards telling of your services. Mail these cards to local clubs, P.T.A.'s who often have their yearly program booklets printed, small churches that would not have their own mimeograph, popular restaur-

*(Continued on page 12)*

Pat's Mimeograph Shop. 1. Typing a stencil for the mimeograph. 2. This counter table was made by Pat's husband and is 3" lower than the cabinet tops. 3. Getting ready to run. This machine can be used either with the motor or turned by hand.



rants that use menu inserts along with their basic menus, and, if you live in a larger city, to the person in charge of conventions connected with the Chamber of Commerce with whom you could leave samples of your work. Every so often I get a job from a local union office. Around election time, you could drop a card to precinct committeemen near you and other candidates too. I did a program for a woman's club. Later this club sponsored an anniversary of their town and I "published" 500 Mechanicsburg, Illinois, 125th Anniversary books.

As you get varied jobs, you will stock index cards from which you make tickets, postcards, and heavier paper for booklet covers, which may be obtained in colors. These slick papers have to be slip sheeted—that is, a clean, absorbent sheet between each one so the ink doesn't offset on the one above. My children help me on this and enjoy it very much. A 100 postcard job that would take me normally one hour only takes about 25 minutes when they slip sheet for me. The person from whom you purchased your mimeograph will be more than happy to help you with any problem.

I am lucky to have a husband who is artistic. He often draws pictures on my booklets. We went to Mechanicsburg and he drew a picture of the Memorial for their servicemen which is located in their town square. It appears on the cover of their Anniversary book. You can purchase illustrations that may be traced onto a stencil or buy photo inserts that can be set in your stencil. For art work and signatures,

you will need a stylus.

Last year I had total cash received of \$869 with expenses for supplies, postage, and advertising of \$245. This was my first complete year. As your business increases, purchase stationery with your business letterhead and business cards to pass out and enclose with your jobs.

It takes a while to get started and even longer to get a steady flow of jobs, but patience and faith will see you through. One thing we "wheel-chair friends" have learned is patience.

---

## Handbooks for Paraplegics

Three very excellent booklets are now being sent, free of charge, to any new paraplegics and quadriplegics by the National Paraplegia Foundation; 432 Fourth Ave.; New York 16, New York.

Information contained in these booklets can be very helpful and may help you to understand your condition better as well as to provide you with many procedures of self-care.

"Primer for Paraplegics and Quadriplegics" was published by the Institute of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, New York University-Bellevue Medical Center. "Paraplegia and You" was published by the California Paralyzed Veterans Assn. "Handbook for Paraplegics and Quadriplegics" was published by Alma and Robert Frost.

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# Is Your Life Miserable?

by  
Richard  
Sprague



## The Isolation Ward

Of all the action packed adventures that plagued me as a Polio patient, the episode I call "Operation Spoonfeed" has probably contributed the least to my general well being. I am referring, of course, to my encounter with that most debilitating division of labor known as the Isolation Ward.

Because of the contagious nature of disease that frequents this area, Isolation Wards are usually located at no small distance from the rest of the hospital. Occasionally as in my case, they are assigned to an outer "Limbo" six stories high where all possible means of escape are well guarded. This exile we Polio's shared with only one other group, the Psychiatric Ward, and I was later sorry I had protested so violently against being left there accidentally.

The creatures that welcomed me into that unearthly seclusion seemed definitely humanoid, but quite anemic. From head to toe they were as white as sheets, and only dark mys-

terious eyes peered over their thin gauze masks. On first meeting me, their glances darted quickly to the freshly sharpened tray of needles and one whispered, "let's give him the test".

With an orderly on each arm, and a nurse on each leg, the chief of the firing squad readied to administer my punishment: I was being tested to determine if I had Polio! They first inserted a two inch needle to deaden the pain of the four inch one to follow, and the four inch weapon—well that didn't do anything but perforate my vertebrae as it travelled the length of my spinal cord. To accomplish this it required four near misses into my gluteals, and produced several broken hypodermics. Ah but it was worth it, for the test proved conclusively that I had Polio—and I was greatly relieved.

For the next two days I was examined every hour on the hour by doctors and internes who felt duty bound to determine whether or not my muscles were still "out to lunch". Their procedures usually consisted of probing my lower extremities with assorted kitchenware (usually a fork), massaging my stomach with a spiked metal roller, and wiggling my toes in an attempt to discover which little piggy went to market.

Finally this nonsense came to an end, and they decided to feed me. I was prepared to enjoy a hearty breakfast that next morning, but all that arrived was a bowl of hot mush and a piece of cold toast. This "Blue Plate" special could have

*(Continued on page 14)*

tasted no less inviting had the entree been cold mush and hot toast. At a distance of two feet, a nurse deftly probed the inner recesses of my mouth with a utensil of gruel and ordered me to swallow. If I was a good boy she told me, I could have strawberry jello for lunch. Much to my annoyance this procedure occurred thrice daily, but seemed only to impress my stomach that my throat had been cut.

But if my days were miserable, the nights were intolerable. My bed, I was told, had been scientifically placed to afford the utmost in relaxation. It was not mentioned, however, that I would have to gaze at a glaring 200 watt hall light throughout the night, or listen to howling babies and respirators. To be fair about it I didn't ask them to disconnect either the babies, lungs, or the light, but merely close my door and move my bed. Reluc-

tantly they agreed to bend the hospital rules slightly, if I promised not to make any statements about preferential treatment.

Except for the frequent intervals of relaxation when orderlies invaded my privacy with colonic irrigators, the remainder of my stay was as chaotic as possible.

---

## The Polished Wheelchair

Straight as a queen on her gilded throne,

You sat in your wheelchair of polished chrome!

With tightly clenched hands upon your lap,

You laughed in the face of handicap!

Some kneel to a queen and pay her homage,

Or salute a general just back from carnage.

But to me the ones who deserve a fanfare,

Are the ones who have conquered  
The POLISHED WHEELCHAIR!

Louise Strobe

---

## Modified Golf Cart Provides Good Local Transportation and Recreation



Stephen Paine, Millis, Mass. enters the cart on a sliding board from his electric wheelchair. On arriving at his destination, the only help required is to remove and set up the wheelchair that is carried in back. This standard electric golf cart was modified with some hand controls and to allow some otherwise little used leg strength to assist weak arms with steering. These modifications were approved and Mr. Paine was granted a driver's license by the state of Massachusetts.

## Job Opportunities For Handicapped In U.S. Civil Service

The Civil Service Commission has an active program for the hiring of the physically handicapped. This has recently been pushed, or promoted by the designation of a coordinator in the personnel office of each agency.

This program, sponsored by the U. S. Civil Service Commission, is designed to assure the handicapped of fair consideration for gainful employment. It operates within the framework of the Civil Service merit system. Not only must a physically handicapped be qualified to do particular jobs; they must *compete* with non-disabled applicants for such civil service positions. In the light of this requirement, the record of the selective placement program stands as testimony to the truth that *properly placed*, the disabled worker is as good as the non-disabled. Since 1942, more than 165,000 disabled workers have joined Uncle Sam's civilian work force.

Selective placement emphasizes abilities—not disabilities. It is founded on the principle that the physically handicapped person who is placed in the right position is not handicapped on the job. When the Civil Service Commission certifies a disabled person to an agency for consideration for employment, it is expressing its fact founded belief that the person is well qualified to do the full job.

The selective placement program

poses but three questions with respect to the disabled applicant—(1) Is he qualified for the job? (2) Can he efficiently perform the duties of the job? (3) Will he be a hazard to himself or to others?

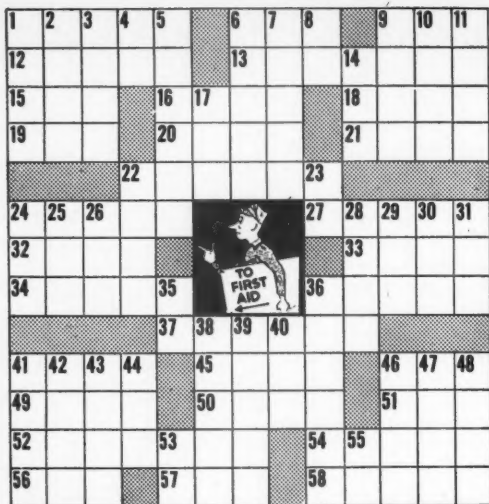
This program is not designed to provide preferential treatment over others eligible for similar work.

You can get full information and listings of civil service examinations by writing to the nearest civil service regional office (if you don't know, ask your local State Employment Service for the address) or by writing to the United States Civil Service Commission, Washington 25, D. C.

## Film Available

A highly successful and dramatic motion picture, "No Man Walks Alone", has been produced by the National Paraplegia Foundation. This is a 27 minute, 16mm, black and white sound film narrated by Fredric March and Ely Wallach, and is the story of one man at a rehabilitation center. It reveals the long, hard struggle back from the human scrapheap to useful life and illustrates the importance of the rehabilitation team.

This movie was filmed at the Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation. This film is available to rent at \$12.50 per week or for purchase at \$150.00. For information write to National Paraplegia Foundation, Inc., 432 Fourth Ave., New York 16, New York.



**Solution  
will be  
printed  
in the  
next issue**

## ACROSS

1. 6. When you hurt yourself, get this fast (two words)
9. If you can't get there yourself, — for help
12. Sharp—the kind of pain that demands prompt attention
13. The way you get oxygen to live
15. Distress signal
16. You might as well do this to your head as to an injury without medical advice
18. — working the moment you are hurt
19. Explosive
20. Don't try to — extra-heavy loads
21. Stop working the moment you are —
22. Go to First Aid for this—not your neighbor, when you are injured
24. Preserved—what First Aid has done to many lives
27. Artificial respiration is in order when you have breathed this
32. Line on which the earth revolves
33. First Aid can help you —
34. Result of some injuries that don't get First Aid
36. To lose blood
37. When this is cut, only prompt First Aid can save

- your life
41. Leap
  45. Man who save lives by prompt First Aid
  46. Do something
  49. Single thing
  50. Iran
  51. Pelt
  52. First Aid can keep these injuries minor
  54. Make happy
  56. These injuries are caused by dropping things on your feet. Get First Aid fast
  57. Prompt First Aid can save paying a doctor's —
  58. She knows how to give First Aid

## DOWN

1. When to get First Aid
2. Image
3. Iron oxide—it can infect minor cuts. Get First Aid
4. Street (ab.)
5. The value of First Aid has been — and proved
6. Lessen
7. Angered—not the way to feel when advised to seek First Aid
8. Prefix
9. Aleutian island
10. Word stem, support
11. Retained
14. The man who smokes in bed may make an — of

- himself
17. Uncle (S. Africa)
  22. Repose—what First Aid advises after over-exertion
  23. Young Women's Christian Association
  24. The way you'll feel if you neglect to get First Aid for minor injuries
  25. Mishandling this tool causes serious foot injuries
  26. By way of
  28. An associate
  29. Cravat—not to be worn when using moving machinery
  30. She started a lot of trouble
  31. This color means Stop
  35. Exclamation
  36. Prompt First Aid can aid the mending of — bones
  38. German river
  39. Brief
  40. Period of time
  41. Fair
  42. Preposition
  43. Mud—when you get it in a wound—get First Aid fast
  44. Parent Teachers Association (ab.)
  46. Distant
  47. Even the smallest of these may become infected without prompt First Aid
  48. Largest plant genus
  53. Whether
  55. Lutecium (ab.)

# Legislation for Handicapped

The question, "Should a handicapped individual be entitled to extra tax exemptions?", is receiving more and more comment from both sides of the fence.

As was reported in the Summer, 1958 issue, one of the major stumbling blocks in this kind of legislation is the fair and proper definition of a handicapped person. In answer to our invitation to write to this magazine expressing your ideas, we received a flood of mail expressing many varying opinions.

One Pennsylvania writer said, "Congress should confine itself to folks society rejects, thus establishing a definition of 'handicapped' as a certain class of disabled people. When a person can be rehabilitated he is only handicapped for a short period of time compared with the average life span of today."

Another writer says, "Yes, I believe a person with a leg brace, wooden leg, or even one with a hand off should be entitled to the deduction for the reasons I have named above—additional wear and tear on clothes, cost of transportation, housing, etc. Maybe I am wrong, but I do not believe that the blind have even as much additional expenses as we who are handicapped do and they are allowed this deduction so I believe we should too."

Another writer agrees with this, "I have to buy two or three times as many shirts and under-shirts as the average, normally healthy person because my back brace wears

them out rapidly across the back and under the arms. As to *who* would receive such special exemptions, I admit that this poses a problem. I would think that a congress that has the ingenuity to devise a \$2 million tax exemption for the express relief of one man (the so called Louis B. Mayer amendment) would also have the wit and wisdom to work out an acceptable definition of what constitutes a physical disability for purposes of the internal revenue code.

A writer in Kansas said, "A single man may be handicapped to the extent that he is going to have to hire someone to live with him and pay them extra for the help he has to have every day. While this guy is trying to make his book-keepers pay do double duty, the tax ax is swinging away. A house wife in a wheelchair may have to hire help to keep her house in order. There are dozens of variations of handicapped situations that all add extra expense. I feel that these added expenses deserve consideration in the way of tax benefits."

Another letter pointed out that the definition of a handicapped person would probably involve so much red tape that it would discourage the self supporting, self respecting individual from even applying and that we would wind up carrying more free loaders than ever.

The proponents of the Keogh Bill have defined a disabled indi-

vidual as, "An individual who is blind or who has lost the use of his leg or both legs, or of both arms, to such an extent that he is unable during the entire taxable year to use, without undue hardship or danger, a street car, bus, subway, train, or similar form of public transportation as a means of traveling to and from work." It seems that they may be getting close to a fair and proper definition.

Other proponents of this type of legislation are getting their foot in the door of Congress by using the definition that has been accepted by Congress and is in effect in the Social Security Disability program. This definition—"Inability to engage in any substantial, gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment that can be expected to result in death or to be of a long continued and indefinite duration."

You will readily recognize that this definition does *not* include a person using a wheelchair who has a job outside of his home or even if he has set up and is operating a business from his own home. It *would* include the same person using a wheelchair if he would just "sit at home" and claim that it was impossible for him to work.

The fact that legislation is needed is beyond doubt. Our Congressmen are receptive to any well organized, well planned and well thought out proposal and of course, this would include clear thinking as to the proper definition of a handicapped person. All the various persons and agencies sponsoring the various forms of handicapped legislation

are all certainly wanting the same thing—something that will be fair to everyone. It would seem that these people would do well to get together and unify their efforts and present the results of this effort in person to the Ways and Means Committee in Washington, D. C.

## Marlon Brando May Head-up New Foundation

A new organization which will be called National Spinal Injuries Foundation is being formed in California and present plans call for movie star Marlon Brando being the honorary president. You will recall his starring role as a paraplegic in "The Men".

### DO YOU HAVE A WHEELCHAIR TO SELL?

***This wheelchair was sold!***

This ad cost only \$3.25 and brought inquiries from California to Vermont.

#### FOR SALE

Electric Wheelchair and sturdy Yard Walker. Both \$50. Corzatt, 269 Columbus, Galesburg, Illinois.

There are still many people looking for a used wheelchair.

Classified ad rate is only 25c per word. Cash with order.

You can have your ad in the Winter Issue. Write, no later than Oct. 15 to ACCENT ON LIVING, 12 Ryan Drive, Bloomington, Illinois.

## IDEA EXCHANGE

Do you have any ideas that could be helpful to any of the readers of ACCENT? This is a column where readers can "get together" on ideas for doing things easier. If you have any particular problems or questions, send them in to us. Chances are someone will have an answer.

### CASE NO. 7

"I was wondering if you could possibly help me out in a small way. I am interested in building an electric wheelchair and would like to have ideas about their construction."

### CASE NO. 8

"I am a post-polio with limited use of my lower arms and hands and little or no back muscle. I can be lifted into a car and sit comfortably, but sometimes when the driver turns a sharp corner or stops suddenly, I tip over. Is there a way to lessen this danger?"

### What do you think?

What "ideas" do you have for the above case? Send them (before October 15) to Idea Exchange, ACCENT On Living magazine, 12 Ryan Drive, Bloomington, Illinois. These ideas will be printed in the Winter 1958 issue.

### What readers said to Case No. 6

"I have had polio since July 1953 and as the result I am unable to move any part of my body, except my head and fingers. How can I earn spending money? . . . I can use a typewriter to do any kind of writing work, but I don't know how to go about getting the kind of work that I could do with a typewriter".

"Here's a suggestion for wanting to earn a little money. Sounds to me as though he could use a head-set phone as described in the same issue. Mine is indispensable. He should check with his

local newspaper and see if he could make arrangements to phone want-ad customers to see if they would like their ads continued. I spend about 45 minutes to an hour daily at this and average \$5 or \$6 a month—not much but it helps. Many businesses use phone campaigns for special sales; a check of these possibilities might prove worthwhile".

Mrs. James Ashcraft  
Newton, Iowa

"Put an ad in your local paper advertising your home typing service. You might also place a card on one of the bulletin boards that many supermarkets and drugstores keep as a public service. Some kinds of typing you might do are MANUSCRIPTS FOR ASPIRING AUTHORS. TERM PAPERS FOR BUSY HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE STUDENTS. (Maybe they can type better than you but they are simply swamped with homework at the end of the semester and don't have time.) ADDRESSING. (There are many kinds of mailing lists you can handle. You can use gummed labels which come in sheets and can be pasted on the envelopes after typing.) Why don't you try to write poetry, stories and articles? Perhaps you have a hidden talent waiting to be discovered! Good Luck."

Clair Willard  
California

"I well understand your interest and concern about spending money and wishing you could earn your own. I've experienced this, not wanting my husband to hand it over. Typing is O.K. but I've found the only way it really PAYS to do it, is to be a local correspondent for the neighborhood newspaper. But, another way I find one can make pretty fine 'Pin Money' is selling greeting cards and extra greeting supplies. I've found my typewriter to be a wonderful friend. I find when things get a little heavy, emotionally, I can write a letter or story, read it over, throw it away and feel much better. Silly? No, not really. It clears the air real well."

Mrs. Alice Hay  
Illinois

## HOW TO OVERCOME—Continued

body.

The frank inquisitiveness of children often gives you a good chance to exercise control over self-consciousness. What should you do when a child points you out in a crowd and says loudly, as if you were a marble statue, "Mama, what's the matter with that lady in the wheel chair?" You can:

- (a) Pretend you didn't hear. You will have accomplished nothing.
- (b) Lash back at them with a mind-your-own-business glance which will shift the embarrassment from you to the child and his mother, making you even more of a curiosity.
- (c) Take charge of the situation with a friendly smile, putting everyone at ease, including yourself. Chances are that the child will repay you with a shy smile of his own (while it dawns on him that you are a human being after all) and his mother will be greatly relieved and thankful to you for your understanding. You have rescued her from an awkward moment.

Many adults look at you with that good-grief-what-happened expression. Release the tension by launching a conversation on something of mutual interest or by focusing your attention on others. If they ask you, explain briefly about your handicap in a matter-of-fact manner. If you dwell on it, so will they!

Remember, it is not really your

affliction that causes your embarrassment. It is your concern about it. This you can conquer, and put the **ACCENT ON LIVING**.

## New Products And Services

**Write to *ACCENT On Living* for more information on any of these new products and services. Be sure to enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.**

A fire alarm is on the market that howls an irritating, unmistakable continuous blast when room temperature reaches 135°, before fire can spread dangerously. Self-Contained unit is independent of electrical house current.

A new Lift is being manufactured consisting of a worm-driven wench that can be used in getting a totally paralyzed person into an automobile, the bed and the bathtub. A rolling frame can also be purchased for use with this Lift to enable patients to be moved around the house.

A Rehabaphone has been developed making telephoning possible for persons with little or no muscle power. This device can be used by anyone able to press, in any way, against the lever of a sensitive micro-switch. You can actually dial a telephone by means of the micro-controls.



# Wheelchair Itinerary

**M**aterial is now being gathered for the publication of a pamphlet listing accommodations for wheelchair travelers. It will contain a minimum of 1,500 motels, hotels, restaurants and places of entertainment where wheelchairsters may conveniently be served.

Help is needed immediately in compiling the material.

## Type of Information Needed

For motels: How high is step into bedroom? Is there room around the bed(s) for chair? Is bathroom door wide enough? (wheelchair is 26")? Can chair get close enough to toilet, sink and tub? Is there a usable restaurant nearby?

For restaurants: Height of step (if any). Can door be entered with chair? Will chair fit close enough to table? What is place's specialty? How are prices? Is there convenient parking space?

For hotels: Can car be parked close by, or will doorman park it? Hotel easily entered? If bedrooms are above street floor, are there adequate elevators? (check same information in rooms as required for motels) Is there a dining room in the hotel? How are prices?

For entertainment: Is place accessible to a wheelchair? Must one transfer from chair to seat? Prices?

Send this information together with prices on the motel's, restaurant's etc. own postcard. When you have written this information on

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the postcard which carries other statistics about the place, address it to Paraplegia News, 240 Lee Avenue, Stroudsburg, Pa.



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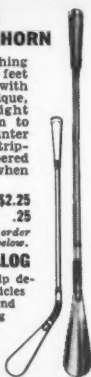
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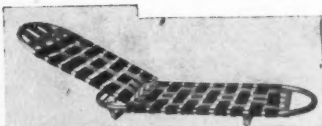
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### FOR SALE—USED

Bargain! Used Hoyer Patient lifter; also Kar-top lift; reasonable; Off. 519 Amsterdam, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Preston electric page turner. Foot, hand or chin operated. Manning; 573 High Street; Fall River, Mass.

### HAND DRIVE CONTROLS

WELLS-ENGBERG CO., 2505 Rural Street, Rockford, Illinois. Write Dept. "A" for literature.

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Drive without using the arms. Write Steering Device, Box 98, Ottawa, Kansas.

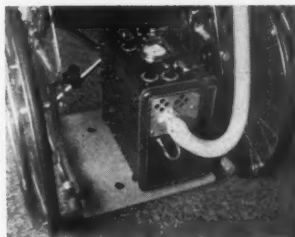
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*ACCENT On Living is a national magazine dedicated to serving all handicapped people, their families and their friends, regardless of race, religion or creed.*

*ACCENT is an authoritative clearing house for problems confronting handicapped people.*

*ACCENT is edited and published with the firm belief that each person gains invaluable experience and knowledge as the result of a physical handicap.*

*ACCENT believes in the complete dignity and respect of all persons.*

*Furthermore, all profit from ACCENT Magazine will be used for furthering rehabilitation facilities and bringing facts, ideas and the benefits of rehabilitation to the readers of this magazine.*

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